Appl. No. 10/817,545
Reply to Final Office Action dated 06/25/2008

DCS-9166
Amdt. Dated Sept. 16, 2008

DO NOT ENTER: /I.A./

Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (currently amended)   A method for increasing the throughput of a single clinical analyzer adapted to perform a number of different assays using reagents inventoried in at least two separate reagent servers within said single analyzer, wherein a first pattern of assays is to be performed in a first time period and a different second pattern of assays is to be performed in a different second time period, the method comprising duplicating reagents required to conduct a number of assays in the first pattern of assays within the at least two servers.

2. (original)   The method of claim 1 wherein the first pattern of assays has a larger portion of a first group of assays and a smaller portion of a second group of assays and wherein the second pattern of assays has a larger portion of said second group of assays and a smaller portion of said first group of assays.

3. (original)   The method of claim 2 wherein the analyzer comprises a rotatable reaction carousel having cuvette ports for supporting said assays, each and every cuvette port being returned to an original starting position in said carousel in a full operational cycle time of the carousel, and wherein said first group of assays comprise assays that are completed in less than one half of said operational cycle time.

4. (original)   The method of claim 3 wherein said second group of assays comprise assays that require more than one half of said operational cycle time to be completed.

5. (original)   The method of claim 1 further comprising selecting reagents from whichever of the at least two servers has the shorter backlog of demand with which to perform assays in the first pattern of assays.

6-10. (withdrawn)